

## 6 MEMOIRS OF NAPOLEON BONAPARTE.

the Emperor, "and embrace me." At these words Napoleon and Macdonald affectionately rushed into each other's arms, and parted with tears in their eyes. Such was the last interview between Macdonald and Napoleon. I had the above particulars from the Marshal himself in 1814, a few days after he returned to Paris with the treaty ratified by Napoleon.

After the clauses of the treaty had been guaranteed Napoleon signed, on the 11th of April, at Fontainebleau, his act of abdication\*, which was in the following terms: — "*The Allied powers having proclaimed that the Emperor Napoleon is the only obstacle to the re-establishment of peace, in Europe, the Emperor Napoleon, faithful to his oath, declares that he renounces for himself and his heirs the thrones of France, and Italy, and that there is no personal interest of life, which he is not ready to sacrifice for the interests of France.*" [See the autograph at side.]

It was not until after Bonaparte had written and signed the above act that Marshal Macdonald, in the name of the Provisional Government, his recognition, expressed in the following dignified and simple manner: — "By the release from my allegiance by the abdication of the Emperor Napoleon, I declare that I conform to the acts of the Senate and the Provisional Government." It is worthy of remark that Napoleon's act of abdication was published in the *Moniteur* on the 12th of April, the very day on which the Comte d'Artois made\* his entry into Paris with the title, of Lieutenant-General of the Kingdom conferred on him by Louis XVIII. The 12th of April was also the day on which the Imperial army fought its last battle before Toulouse,<sup>1</sup> when the French troops, commanded by Soult, made Wellington purchase «so dearly his entrance into the south of France».\*.

Political revolutions are generally stormy, yet, during the great change of 1814 Paris was perfectly tranquil, thanks to the excellent discipline maintained by the Emperor of the Allied armies, and thanks also to the efforts of the National

<sup>1</sup> The battle of Toulouse was fought on the 10th, not the 12th April. It was on the 12th that Wellington entered Toulouse. {KNK}d.